



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

### Necrology of Virginia Historical Society.

[At the time the Magazine for January went to press we were unable to obtain the details of Dr. William H. Sheild's life, which we now give.]

DR. WILLIAM HENRY SHEILD, Assistant Superintendent of the Eastern State Hospital, died at Williamsburg, on the 22d of October, 1894. He was born on York river, in the county of York, in the year 1834. His father was Dr. William Henry Sheild, and his mother Anna Byrd Corbin. Among his ancestors was Rev. Samuel Sheild, an eminent Episcopal clergyman of his time, who was a close competitor with Bishop Madison for the Diocese of Virginia.

He entered the Confederate army as a private in artillery; very soon he was made assistant-surgeon, and was assigned to an Alabama regiment of infantry. From that position he was transferred, as surgeon, to the Thirty-second Virginia Infantry, a regiment mostly made up from the Peninsula. Then he became brigade surgeon. At the end of the war he settled in Yorktown, where he practiced medicine with great success for many years. Previous to his death Dr. Sheild occupied the position of Assistant Superintendent of the Eastern State Hospital. He was never married.

While he was an accomplished master of his profession, he was also a literary man of fine tastes and fine attainments, and large range of reading in the field of letters. He was exceptionally brilliant in conversation, and as a writer he had rare merit. He was a man possessing many qualities which gave him a strong hold upon the affection, respect and admiration of those who were associated with him.

MARK DOWNEY.—To the very brief account of the life of Mr. Mark Downey, appearing in the January number, the following, contributed by one who knew him well, can be appropriately added:

"Mr. Downey had an interesting career, and a character notable for sincerity and vigor. Born at Bear Haven in Ireland, in 1816, he was reared and schooled by his grandfather. After the death of this relative and the consequent changes this entailed, he set sail for America, landed in New York, where, by the frankness that characterized him through life, he soon made friends, and where he remained some years. Learning that he had a sister living in Richmond, he visited her, and charmed with the South and the Southern spirit and hospitality, he located there, and became identified with all its interests. Without capital, by thrift and abounding energy, he succeeded in establishing himself in business, and succeeded in this beyond every anticipation.

"If an qualities of his deserve especial mention, they were his strongly pronounced principles and his inflexible integrity. He was a Democrat at a time when it required much courage and strong convictions in a young merchant to enlist in the ranks of Democracy in a